

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JAKART 02399 240156Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSC-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 /024 W
-----009685 241024Z /14

R 240128Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6995
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 2399

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINR, MY, ID
SUBJECT: NEW INDONESIAN AMBASSADOR TO MALAYSIA

1. PRIOR TO HIS AMBASSADORIAL ASSIGNMENT TO MALAYSIA, GENERAL MAKMUN MUROD, NOW 53, WAS ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF (MAY 1974-JAN. 1978).

2. HE RECEIVED JAPANESE MILITARY TRAINING DURING THE OCCUPATION, AND ROSE TO BATTALION COMMANDER IN THE INDONESIAN WAR FOR INDEPENDENCE. MOST OF HIS EARLY EXPERIENCE WAS IN SUMATRA. LATER MUROD COMMANDED THE JAKARTA AREA COMMAND, THE ARMY AND NATIONAL STRATEGIC COMMAND AND KOWILHAN II (JOINT ALL JAVA COMMAND). GENERAL MUROD ATTENDED THE INDIAN DEFENSE SERVICE STAFF COLLEGE AND VISITED THE U.S. IN 1971.

3. AN ANTI-COMMUNIST, MUROD IN 1959 WAS SAID TO BE VERY LOYAL TO GENERAL NASUTION, ONE OF THE OUTSPOKEN ANTI-COMMUNIST LEADERS AT THE TIME. IN 1965, HOWEVER, THE INDOENSIAN COMMUNIST PARTY REGARDED MUROD AS ANTI-NASUTION AND PRO-SUKARON, AND AN OFFICER WITH WHOM IT COULD WORK IN PLANS TO PREVENT GENERAL NASUTION FROM GAINING MORE POWER IN THE GOVERNMENT. FOLLOWING THE ABORTIVE COMMUNIST COUP IN 1965, MUROD'S LOYALTY CHANGED TO AND HAS REMAINED WITH PRESIDENT SUHARTO.

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4. MARRIED WITH THREE CHILDREN, MUROD IS ALERT, ENERGETIC, SHREWD, QUIET AND METHODICAL. HE ATTEMPTS TO GET ALONG WITH EVERYONE AND LIKES TENNIS, GOLF AND PHOTOGRAPHY. MUROD IS WELL-DISPOSED TOWARD AMERICANS AND SPEAKS GOOD ENGLISH.
MASTERS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: AMBASSADOR DESIGNATE, BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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